Strategic frame work has been prepared to meet shortage of nurses in future in the following manner:—

(i) Establishing Auxiliary Nurse Midwifery (ANM) and General Nursing and Midwifery (GNM) schools in those districts (230) which are not having both these training programmes.

(ii) Establishing post graduation Nursing (M.Sc., Nursing) Institutions.

(iii) Regional Institute of excellence be established with the objective of improving the standard on all India basis and provide opportunity to access high quality Nursing Education through out the country.

(iv) Developing Cadre of nurse midwifery practitioners and establishing training institutions.

Gene banks for Medicinal plant promotion

†4059. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government of Madhya Pradesh has forwarded proposals to the Central Government to set up gene bank to facilitate plantation of medicinal plants on private land in various districts;

(b) if so, the present status thereof;

(c) by when they are likely to be cleared; and

(d) the reasons for delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) In view of reply to (a) above, questions does not arise.

Pneumonia cases in the country

4060. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the largest number of children die of pneumonia in the world are in India;

(b) if so, the number of such cases during the last three years, year-wise and State-wise;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi